

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of) DOCKET NO. 2008-0273
)
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)
)
Instituting Proceedings to)
Investigate the Implementation)
Of Feed-in Tariffs.)
_____)

FILED
2008 JUN 30 PM 3:54
HONOLULU

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU'S RESPONSES TO SECOND SET OF
QUESTIONS POSED BY THE NATIONAL REGULATORY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

AND

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU'S RESPONSES TO SECOND SET OF
QUESTIONS POSED BY THE NATIONAL REGULATORY RESEARCH
INSTITUTE ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

The CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU ("City"), by and through its attorneys, Corporation Counsel, Carrie K. S. Okinaga, and Deputy Corporation Counsel, Gordon D. Nelson, hereby submits its responses to questions and issues by Commission consultant, National Regulatory Research Institute ("NRRI"), dated March 16, 2009. The City respectfully reserves its right to further elaborate its responses in future submissions in this docket as may be appropriate.

Questions for the City and County of Honolulu

1. Please describe the near-term plans of the City and County of Honolulu to expand its generation capacity.

RESPONSE:

A. The City intends to add a "Third Boiler" to its current H-Power facility. This will be a waste-to-energy, mass burn facility. The project will add to H-Power's current capability the further capability to convert an additional 300,000 tons of waste per year to energy. The project is located at the current H-Power site at Hanua Street in Campbell Industrial Park. The expected date of commercial operation is May, 2012 based on information currently available. Initially, the capacity of the Third Boiler will be 17 mw in year 2012, increasing to additional 10 mw over the following ten years to net 27 mw in year 2022.

B. The City intends to install a Photovoltaic (PV) System for Buildings A, B and C at its Halawa Corporation Yard at 99-1077 Iwaena Street, Aiea. The estimated PV system size is 54.6 kW (—1,061 PV panels). Bid opening is anticipated in June 4, 2009. The City anticipates consuming all energy produced on site.

C. The City intends to install a Photovoltaic (PV) System for Building D at its Halawa Corporation Yard at 99-999 Iwaena Street, Aiea. The estimated PV system size is 100 kW. Bid opening is anticipated in the spring of 2010. The City anticipates consuming all energy produced on site.

2. Please describe, in general or specific terms, the projects that the City is contemplating supporting or those that it would under a more expansive FiT.

RESPONSE:

If the FiT were to be made more expansive in terms of technologies covered (to include biomass, and municipal solid waste recovery as a subspecies of biomass), the City might contemplate contracting for the "Third Boiler" under a FiT. However, the permitted size of projects under the FiT would also have to be expanded to accommodate projects larger than HEC0 seems willing to allow under a FiT.

3. Please describe the size, number and locations of potential biomass projects that could be developed on Oahu if supported by a FiT. Are any such facilities currently being developed on Oahu?

RESPONSE:

The City intends to add a "Third Boiler" to its current H-Power facility. This will be a waste-to-energy, mass burn facility. The project will add to H-Power's current capability the further capability to convert an additional 300,000 tons of waste per year to energy. The project is located at the current H-Power site at Hanua Street in Campbell Industrial Park. The expected date of commercial operation is May, 2012 based on information currently available. Initially, the capacity of the Third Boiler will be 17 mw in year 2012, increasing to additional 10 mw over the following ten years to net 27 mw in year 2022.

4. Please describe the current use of municipal solid waste technology for the generation of renewable energy in the City and County of Honolulu.

RESPONSE:

The City's H-Power facility has served Honolulu's municipal waste disposal needs since 1987. H-Power is capable of processing 2,160 tons-per-day of municipal solid waste into refuse derived fuel (RDF) for combustion, while generating up energy from this renewable source. The energy produced is sold to HECO under a PPA that calls generally for delivery and purchase of a minimum of 46 mw during peak hours and 40 mw during non-peak hours.

H-Power is capable of processing 2,160 tons-per-day of municipal solid waste into refuse derived fuel (RDF) for combustion while generating energy from this renewable source. H-Power also recovers 20,000 tons for ferrous and non-ferrous metal for recycling each year.

By combusting Oahu's non-hazardous municipal solid waste, H-Power conserves scarce landfill space while reducing imported oil used to make electricity. H-Power minimizes impacts on air quality by closely monitoring the air emissions on a real-time basis and by adhering to strict state and federal requirements.

5. Please describe what kind of potential municipal solid waste projects could be developed on Oahu if supported by a FiT.


RESPONSE:

The City intends to add a "Third Boiler" to its current H-Power facility. This will be a waste-to-energy, mass burn facility. The project will add to H-Power's current capability the further capability to convert an additional 300,000 tons of waste per year to energy. The project is located at the current H-Power site at Hanua Street in Campbell Industrial Park. The expected date of commercial operation is May, 2012 based on information currently available. Initially, the capacity of the Third Boiler will be 17 mw in year 2012, increasing to additional 10 mw over the following ten years to net 27 mw in year 2022.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, March 30, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

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Corporation Counsel

By 
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Honolulu

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The foregoing document was served on the date of filing by electronic transmission on
the date of signature to each of the parties listed below.

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DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, March 30, 2009.

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